

REMARKS

Applicant has received the Office Action dated May 18, 2005 and provides the following response as an RCE patent application. The enclosed amendment is respectfully requested to be entered.

The enclosed amendment addresses the issue raised by the Examiner in the final Office Action dated May 18, 2005 and is believed to make all claims allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 18, 2005

By: 

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop -- Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

on this 18th day of August, 2005.

By: Beverly L. Middleton
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***** VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE *****

1. (Currently Amended) An adjustable gas nozzle comprising, in combination:
 - a nozzle body member having an elongated passageway therethrough with an inlet opening at a first end and an outlet at a second end;
 - a conduit connected to the nozzle body member;
 - an adjustment member disposed intermediate the conduit and the nozzle body member and having a first non-adjustable restricted orifice;
 - a coupling between said conduit and said body member to permit first and second alternative positions therebetween;
 - a by-pass passageway around the adjusting member and said first restricted orifice;
 - cooperative surfaces in said first position to seal between said body member and said adjusting member to close off flow through said by-pass passageway to permit a first gas flow through the two outlets in series so that gas flow rate is regulated by said first restricted orifice;
 - cooperating means associated with said adjusting member and said conduit upstream of said cooperating surfaces for limiting the displacement of said nozzle body member relative to said conduit in said first position;
 - said nozzle body member being moveable into said second position relative to said conduit to relieve the seal between the said body member and said adjusting member to permit a second gas flow of an amount greater than said first gas flow through the combination of said first restricted orifice and said by-pass passageway; and

a seal provided between said conduit and said nozzle body member to preclude leakage of gas therebetween, said seal comprising integral surfaces on said nozzle body member and said conduit.

2. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 1, wherein said seal comprises ribs on said conduit.

3. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 1, wherein the material of one of said conduit and body member is harder than the other.

4. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 3, wherein said seal comprises ribs on said conduit.

5. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 4, wherein the material of the conduit and ribs is harder than the nozzle body member.

6. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 1, wherein said restricted orifices are coaxial, and said first restricted orifice is smaller than the outlet of said nozzle body member.

7. (Previously Presented) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 1, wherein said cooperating means includes an annular shoulder about an anterior wall of said conduit; and

a plurality of legs elongated longitudinally along the adjusting member spaced longitudinally from the outlet of said adjusting member and positionable on said annular

shoulder, the space between adjacent legs providing a the by-pass passageway for gas flow therebetween when said cooperative surfaces are not engaged.

8. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 7, wherein said seal comprises ribs on the conduit.

9. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 7, wherein the material of one of said conduit and body member is harder than the other.

10. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 9, wherein said seal comprises ribs on said conduit.

11. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 10, wherein the material of the conduit and ribs is harder than the nozzle body member.

12. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 6, wherein said cooperating means includes an annular shoulder about an anterior wall of said conduit; and

a plurality of legs elongated longitudinally along the adjusting member spaced longitudinally from the outlet of said adjusting member and positionable on said shoulder, the space between adjacent legs providing a passageway for gas flow therebetween when said cooperative surfaces are not engaged.

13. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 12, wherein said seal comprises ribs on the conduit.

14. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 13, wherein the material of one of said conduit and body member is harder than the other.

15. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 14, wherein said seal comprises ribs on said conduit.

16. (Original) An adjustable gas nozzle as recited in claim 15, wherein the material of the conduit and ribs is harder than the nozzle body member.